

with combat operations against the enemy as Department of Border Enforcement Coordinator. The formal citation for this Medal follows below. I heartily congratulate Lt. Col. Richwine on his promotion and the recognition of his meritorious achievement. I share the pride felt by his wife Angela and their children, Owen and Charlie, at this time in Bowen's career.

For meritorious achievement in connection with combat operations against the enemy as Department of Border Enforcement Coordinator, II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward) and I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM 04-06 and 05-07 from October 2005 to April 2006. During this period, Major Richwine was directly responsible for the development of Iraqi border forces along over 1000 kilometers of Iraq's borders. Coordinating movements of border forces, border fort construction, and Border Transition Teams, his determined efforts led to the strategically significant restoration of Iraq's borders on 30 November 2005. Identifying a significant problem at the Ports of Entry, Major Richwine developed an innovative plan involving the creation of a multi-agency task force formed to train, advise, and mentor the forces at the Ports of Entry. Ultimately this solution was briefed to the Commanding General Multi National Forces-Iraq who decided to duplicate this idea at other locations throughout Iraq. Finally, displaying an unusually prescient grasp on the mechanisms needed to grow new units, Major Richwine on his own initiative and despite the absence of Military Occupational Specialty Schools for the border police, sought out school seats at Ministry of Defense schools across Iraq. His vigorous efforts have led to the very first school trained Iraqi Border Police, giving them critical life support capabilities which will permit them to develop logistics systems that will support their force long after the Coalition Forces depart Iraq. Major Richwine's total effectiveness, forceful leadership, and loyal devotion to duty reflected great credit upon him and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

RECOGNIZING MR. TED NELSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mr. Ted Nelson of Liberty, Missouri. Ted served in the United States Navy. He fought for our country during the Korean War.

Mr. Nelson enlisted in the United States Navy before he had the opportunity to graduate from high school. He continued to serve in the Navy during the Korean War. He served honorably and returned to Liberty, Missouri. Mr. Nelson recently received his high school diploma from the Marcus School District in Marcus, Iowa.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Mr. Ted Nelson. His many years of distinguished service and commitment to serving his country have been an inspiration. I commend him for his service, and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress.

HONORING PRESIDENT GERALD FORD

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, with the passing of President Gerald Ford our Nation, the U.S. House of Representatives and the Ford Family have lost a leader, a respected colleague and a loved one who was very special to their lives.

Few American leaders of our time have gained the admiration and appreciation so well deserved and earned by our 38th President. While our country has lost a distinguished leader and the Congress has lost a distinguished Member, Gerald Ford's life and public service will always remain a model for future generations.

In October of 1999, I had the pleasure to quietly sit and speak with President Ford at the conclusion of a Capitol Hill reception that was held after he was honored with the Congressional Gold Medal in the Capitol Rotunda. While I had met him before, what struck me on this special occasion was how such a great man receiving the highest honor from our Nation and Congress could be so humble, so gracious and so genuine.

How memorable it was for me to spend that special time with that gentle man and great American. How fitting it was that Gerald Ford returned this week to the Capitol and the Congress he loved. While this gentle man belongs to the ages, he will always share a special place in our hearts and fond memories.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN ABIJAH DAVIS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark an important milestone in the life of one of my fellow Marylanders—John Abijah Davis—who today celebrates his 100th birthday.

John Abijah Davis was born January 4, 1907 in an upstairs bedroom of his parent's house on North Sherman Drive in Indianapolis, Indiana—a home built by his Uncle, Issac Davis. Named after another Uncle, John Davis, and his father, Abijah Alley Davis, John A. Davis grew up in that home, attending St. Phillip Neri school and parish, before moving on to Cathedral High School in 1920, graduating in 1924 with the first full four-year class in school history.

John Davis graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1928 with a BA in English. At school, he counted among his friends Walter "Red" Smith, later a Pulitzer Prize winning sports columnist for the New York Times, Miller Brewing Company heir Fred Miller and Howard Phelan, who later in life donated the famous "Touchdown Jesus" mural that adorns the facade of the school library overlooking the football stadium.

In 1934, John A. Davis married Virginia Lyon in Notre Dame's historic Log Chapel in a mass presided over by his cousin, Rev. John O'Hara, then president of Notre Dame.

In 1936, John and Virginia had a daughter, Mary Elizabeth Davis.

Moving from Indiana to New York, John Davis joined his brother Charles and opened the Browne-Davis Furniture Co. The business prospered and both became treasured members of the local community in Oswego. Selling their successful business after 40-plus years, the Davis brothers enjoyed a fulfilling retirement.

John briefly became a constituent of mine when he retired to Dameron, Maryland to live with his daughter Mary Elizabeth. Following her death in 2001, John moved to Cheverly, Maryland, residing with his grandson, John Davis Porcari, and his wife and five children. John Porcari served with great distinction as Maryland Secretary of Transportation under Governor Parris Glendening. He has recently been selected by Governor-elect Martin O'Malley to take on this position in his administration.

John Davis heads a family consisting of four grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. Dozens of nieces and nephews from four generations and scores of friends continue to look up to Mr. Davis, including his grand-nephew, Lt. Col. Harold VanOpdorp, USMC, who commands the First Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment in Anbar Province, Iraq.

According to his family, John Abijah Davis continues to teach life's most valuable lessons—humility, duty and hard work, devotion to one's God, family and friends. These lessons are reflected in all those he has touched. As he, his family and friends celebrate this milestone, they celebrate not the chronology of years, but the character of the man.

I join with his family and many friends in wishing him continued health and happiness on his 100th birthday.

RECOGNIZING CHAD BRENTON FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Chad Brenton, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 320, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Chad has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Chad has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Chad Brenton for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout. I am honored to represent Chad in the United States House of Representatives.